

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Budget and Finance

AGENDA ITEM: 7 – S

DATE: October 3-5, 2017

SUBJECT: NSU Regional Sports Complex – Preliminary Facility Statement

Northern State University requests approval of its Preliminary Facility Statement to begin planning for an on-campus sports complex that would feature a football stadium and softball field. NSU requests that a building committee be appointed and authorization be granted to engage consultants to undertake the analysis and planning needed for this project.

Since 1970, NSU has utilized Swisher Field for football games. In 2003, the field was relocated to the northeast side of Aberdeen – approximately two miles from campus. This shared field is used by the high schools and Presentation College which causes scheduling conflicts, and the distance limits students to attend events.

The project includes a football stadium with capacity for 8,000 spectators, a turf field, premium seating space, fan amenities, scoreboard, lights, restrooms, maintenance equipment and facilities, and media and coaching space. The sports complex also includes a softball stadium with a turf field, dugouts, fan amenities, restrooms, media pavilion, fan seating for 300, a locker room, and storage for maintenance and support services.

All NSU students, coaches, staff, spectators, community and alumni would benefit from this project. NSU athletic teams would finally be able to compete on campus. The facility would provide a space for the marching band to practice, perform and host competitions and shows. The complex would be a highly visible facility in the community and be available for use to a variety of groups throughout the region.

This project is consistent with the goals of the 2017 NSU Campus Master Plan. The complex will be a key addition to the continued development and enhancement of NSU’s campus. This facility would be built on the site currently occupied by the South Dakota School for the Blind and Visually Impaired. Using this location is predicated on the approval of a land exchange between NSU and SDSBVI and the construction of a new SDSBVI facility on the site currently occupied by Jerde Hall.

(Continued)

DRAFT MOTION 20171003_7-S: I move to approve NSU’s Preliminary Facility Statement to develop preliminary plans funded by private donations for an on-campus sports complex. A building committee representative should be appointed to oversee this project.

The budget for development of a Facility Program Plan is \$300,000-500,000; this will be funded by private donations through the foundation. The proposed funding sources for construction will also come from private donations. A comprehensive capital campaign will be initiated to secure funding for the full cost of the project; currently a quiet phase of the capital campaign has begun and substantial amounts of pledges have been confirmed.

Additional details of the project can be found in NSU's attached Preliminary Facility Statement. If approved, the Board president should appoint a building committee representative to oversee the project.

PRELIMINARY FACILITY STATEMENT
Regional Sports Complex
Northern State University

NSU requests approval of this Preliminary Facility Statement to develop preliminary plans for an on campus sports complex that would feature a football stadium and softball field. NSU requests that a building committee be appointed and authorization be granted to engage consultants to undertake the analysis and planning needed for this project.

1. GENERAL PROGRAMMATIC NEED TO BE ADDRESSED

This project would enable NSU to develop plans for an on-campus facility that will provide the ability for both football and softball to compete on campus. NSU football last competed on campus in the 1930's and softball has never competed on campus. Since the 1970's, NSU football games have been played at Swisher Field. In 2003, the field was moved from the northeast side of Aberdeen to its current location at Aberdeen Central High School which is approximately two miles from NSU's campus. Swisher Field is utilized by Aberdeen Central High School, Roncalli High School, NSU and Presentation College. The NSU softball team practices and competes at the Moccasin Creek Softball Complex owned by the City of Aberdeen. Utilizing off campus facilities creates scheduling issues and makes it challenging for students to participate in and attend events.

The project would include a football stadium with capacity for 8,000 spectators, a turf field, premium seating space, fan amenities, scoreboard, lights, restrooms, maintenance equipment and facilities, and media and coaching space. The sports complex would also include a softball stadium with a turf field, dugouts, fan amenities, restrooms, media pavilion, fan seating for 300, a locker room, and storage for maintenance and support services. Parking would also be included and be available for use by individuals attending events at the sports complex, the Barnett Center and to the students living in the nearby residence halls.

2. ANALYSIS OF CONSTITUENTS TO BE SERVED

All NSU students, coaches, staff, spectators, community and alumni would benefit from this project. NSU athletic teams would finally be able to compete on campus. Athletic competitions play a major role in the life of a campus by engaging the student body and drawing spectators to campus.

3. ADDITIONAL SERVICES OFFERED

The facility would provide a space for the marching band to practice, perform and host competitions and shows. The complex would be a highly visible facility in the community and be available for use to a variety of groups throughout the region.

4. COMPLIANCE WITH THE MASTER PLAN

This project is consistent with the goals of the 2017 NSU Campus Master Plan. The complex will be a key addition to the continued development and enhancement of NSU's campus.

5. ANALYSIS OF NEEDS ASSESSMENT BASED ON THE FACILITIES UTILIZATION REPORT

Not applicable.

6. LOCATION

This facility would be built on the site currently occupied by the South Dakota School for the Blind and Visually Impaired. Using this location is predicated on the approval of a land exchange between NSU and SDSBVI and the construction of a new SDSBVI facility on the site currently occupied by Jerde Hall.

7. REALLOCATION OF OLD SPACE, IF ANY

Not applicable.

8. PROPOSED FUNDING SOURCE

Private funds will be used for the construction of this facility. A comprehensive capital campaign will be initiated to secure funding for the full cost of the project design and construction. A quiet phase of a capital campaign has already been initiated and substantial amounts of pledges have been confirmed.

9. BUDGET FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A FACILITY PROGRAM PLAN

The cost to develop the facility program plan will be funded with private dollars available through the NSU Foundation. The estimated costs for professional services to develop the facility program plan is \$300,000 to \$500,000.